

REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
Aitkin Independent School District No. 1
Aitkin, Minnesota 56431
Aitkin High School Cafeteria and 181 Ellis Road, Kingston, TN
September 21, 2015

MINUTES

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 p.m. by Chairman Dennis Hasskamp with all members present, including Mr. Burgstaler who attended via Skype.

A motion was made by Mr. Hoge, with a second by Mr. Janzen, to approve the agenda, adding Mary Braton under #13 (Approve the Music Technician Employment Agreement) and adding #15 – Approve the revised list of All Year Extracurricular Assignments for 2015-2016 and Fall Extracurricular Assignments for 2015-2016. All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

Scheduled presentations:

Student Council Representative Taylor Courier presented information on the restructuring of their board and slate of officers. She talked about last week's homecoming activities, including the Pep Fest and homecoming dance.

The following new staff members introduced themselves to the Board:

Kelly Bast - H.S. FACS
Samantha Croatt - H.S. Counselor
Tracy Shimer - Special Education at Rippleside
Jennifer Burgos - District Public Health Nurse
Melissa VanPortfliet - Early Childhood Teacher at Rippleside
Kristy Hoge - 4th Grade at Rippleside
Shanen Weimer - 4th Grade at Rippleside

Lisa DeMars, District Curriculum Director, gave an update on the development of the District's World's Best Workforce plan.

Old business:

A motion was made by Mr. Burgstaler, with a second by Mr. Chute, to approve the following policies:

Policy 427, Workload Limits for Certain Special Education Teachers
Policy 503, High School Attendance Policy

All members voted in favor of the motion, and the motion carried.

New business:

After moving #12 (Approve spring head coaches) to item E, a motion was made by Mr. Welshons, with a second by Mr. Burgstaler, to approve the consent agenda as follows:

- Minutes of the Special Closed Meeting held on August 17, the Regular Meeting held on August 17, the Special Closed Meeting held after the Regular Meeting on August 17, and of the Special Closed Meeting held on September 9.
- Office receipts for the month of August in the amount of \$1,781,106.98.
- Report of expenditures for August including \$786,235.49 for bills and \$429,143.64 for payroll and district contribution to PERA, TRA, OASDI/Medicare and 403(B).
- Insurance Account checks #13585 - 13622 in the amount of \$13,882.27.
- Collateral Report for September.
- Donations for August in the amount of \$8,801.44.
- Wire transfers for August in the amount of \$300,000.00.
- Approved a Youth Service Grant:
 - Cheryl Hess - Pumpkin Exploration - \$500.00
- Approved a lane change:
 - Katie Dotzler - from MA to MA+15
- Accepted resignations:
 - Scott Miller - Peer Helpers Co-Advisor, effective immediately
 - Dean Lynn - Gr. 9 (JV) Football, effective immediately
- Approved hiring for the 2015-2016 school year:
 - Kim Chalich - H.S. Asst. Media Technician
 - Andrea Harmon - Rippleside Special Education Para
 - Diana Welle - H.S. Para
 - Bobbi Jo Bourassa - Rippleside Special Education Para
 - Megan Raddatz - H.S. Para
 - Scott Miller - C Squad Football Coach
 - Kevin Peterson - Bus Driver, effective 9/08/15
 - Melissa VanPortfliet - Early Childhood Teacher
- Approved the Music Technician Employment Agreements with Rebecca Klingelhofer and Mary Braton.
- Approved a contract with Northern Pines.

- Approved the revised list of All Year Extracurricular Assignments for 2015-2016 and Fall Extracurricular Assignments for 2015-2016

All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Welshons, with a second by Mr. Janzen, to approve the 2015-2016 List of Fundraising Activities. All members voted in favor of the motion, and the motion carried.

A motion was made by Mr. Hoge, with a second by Mr. Welshons, to set the preliminary 2015 payable 2016 levy at the maximum. All members voted in favor, and the motion carried.

The consensus of the Board was to hold a Board Work Session on October 7, 2015, at 6:30 p.m. in the High School Media Center.

A motion was made by Mr. Welshons, with a second by Mr. Hoge, to approve the spring head coaches as follows:

Head Baseball Coach - Jeremy Janzen
Head Softball Coach - Jason Henke
Head Boys' Track Coach - Adam Carlson
Head Girls' Track Coach - Ava Carlson
Head Boys' Golf Coach - Michael Statz
Head Girls' Golf Coach - Ann Erlandson

Mr. Chute, Mr. Welshons, Mr. Hoge, Mr. Burgstaler, Ms Hills, and Mr. Hasskamp voted in favor. Mr. Janzen abstained. The motion carried.

Administrative reports:

Board members' reports:

Committee reports:

Mr. Hoge reported on the Rippleside PTO and Parent Advisory Council (PAC) meetings held earlier in the evening. The Round-up for Rippleside fundraiser at Paulbeck's County Market raised \$5,000 for the PTO. The PAC is working on plans for this year's Family Fun Nights.

Mr. Janzen reported that the Policy Committee met on September 3 and is presenting the following policy to the Board for a first reading:

Policy 510.4 Academic Eligibility

Mr. Chute attended a Meet and Confer Committee meeting on September 16. The committee discussed Policy 510.4 and the struggles with getting the technology reordered and installed after the water damage. Things are going well and should be up and running in a few weeks.

Superintendent's report:

Mr. Novak reviewed enrollment data for the start of the school year; overall, the District is up six students over last year. Three foreign exchange students are attending Aitkin High School this year. District records show 45 home school students, 6 PSEO students, and a net loss of five students to open enrollment.

A motion was made by Mr. Chute, with a second by Hoge, to approve the 2015-2016 Teacher Handbook. All members voted in favor of the motion, and the motion carried.

Mr. Novak asked that the Board members fill out their Official Ballot for MSBA Delegate Area 27 and return them to him for submission to the MSBA; the deadline is October 12.

Principals' reports:

Mr. Peterson reported on the KinderCamp event held before the start of school. A Rockin' Prevention (anti-bullying) event was held at Rippleside, and the first Farm-to-School lunch will be held at Rippleside on September 24. Students will be served fajitas, a local farmer will be present in the cafeteria, and Mr. Peterson will drive up to the school on a tractor.

Mr. Karelis reported on the 7th Grade Orientation, recent technology/server transitions, and an attempt to assign building locations to various trunk lines for emergency phone calls. Staff and administrators have been dealing with some bullying issues, and the fire escape stairways are being inspected and prepared for student use between classes. He and Ms DeMars met with staff about expectations for PLCs. He also reported on student bus training, getting the Media Center ready for post-water damage use, frustrations with the recent warm temperatures, and his attendance at a Mentoring Committee Meeting. He commended the senior staff members on that committee for their work in helping new teachers.

Mr. Hasskamp presented the upcoming meeting schedule as listed in the agenda, reminding those in attendance that the Truth in Taxation (Budget) Meeting will be part of the regular December 21 Board Meeting at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Janzen asked, and the Board discussed, how to address the shortage of bus drivers.

Comments from visitors:

No public comments were made.

A motion to adjourn was made by Ms Hills, with a second by Mr. Janzen. The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Tiffany Gustin
Secretary